

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 and 38-63 are pending.

Claims 1-27 and 38-63 stand improperly rejected.

Claims 1, 27 and 38 have been amended to incorporate disclosed features of the expandable bus, specifically a plurality of expansion slots as shown in Figures 7-10 and described throughout the specification and particularly on pages 26-30. No new matter has been added.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second paragraph

Claims 1 and 38 were rejected as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1 and 38 have been amended rendering the rejection moot.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-9, 16, 18-22, 26, 27, 38, 46-53, 55-59 and 63 were rejected as being unpatentable over Foster, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,016,313); Claims 2, 3-8, 17, 23-25, 39-45, 54 and 60-62 were rejected as being unpatentable over Foster, Jr. et al. as applied to Claims 1 and 38 above, and further in view of Carney (U.S. Patent No. 6,011,785).

The Office relies upon Foster to provide a disclosure of an expandable bus. Foster does not disclose an expandable bus with a plurality of expansion slots as currently recited in the claims.

The addition of Carney does nothing to obviate this deficiency.

Therefore, the rejection is rendered improper and must be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-27 and 38-63 are in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If any point remains that is deemed best resolved through a telephonic conversation, the Office is hereby requested to contact the undersigned directly.

The Office is requested and authorized to charge any fee associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 04-1679 to Duane Morris LLP.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: June 20, 2008